

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 EB-11 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /151 W

----- 079391

R 091407Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7788

INFO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5070

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO BU

SUBJECT: MINIC VISIT TO SOFIA

1. JUDGING FROM PRESS REPORTS, VICE PREMIER AND FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC'S NOV 4-6 VISIT TO SOFIA RESULTED IN AGREEMENT TO DISAGREE ON THE BASIC BILATERAL ISSUE OF THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION. MINIC'S REFERENCES TO "BULGARIANS ON ONE SIDE AND SERBS AND MACEDONIANS ON THE OTHER", AND PRESS MENTION OF THE OPEN PROBLEM OF THE "RECOGNITION OF THE MACEDONIAN NATIONAL MINORITY IN BULGARIA" CANNOT PLEASE SOFIA. FINAL COMMUNIQUE, HOWEVER, CLEARLY TRIED TO POINT TO AREAS OF AGREEMENT; I.E., ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, ON THE NEED FOR HEIGHTENED ECONOMIC COOPERATION, AND THE DESIRABILITY FOR BALKAN COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES TO SETTLE DIFFERENCES PEACEFULLY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION AT RECENT DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION, BOTH FSFA OFFICIAL AND BULGARIAN COUNSELOR LUBEN DAMYANOV (SEPARATELY) ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFERENCES, CLAIMED GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES AND ASSERTED MINIC TALKS WERE STRICTLY BILATERAL

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INITIATIVE, WITH NO PRODDING FROM THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS

EMBASSY'S IMPRESSION BOTH SIDES WISH GIVE APPEARANCE
IMPROVEMENT RELATIONS IN GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF EUROPEAN DETENTE
EVEN IF THIS NOT ACTUALLY THE CASE.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, AGREEMENT DRAFT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BELGRA05070
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BELGRADE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731145/aaaabgvt.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <11-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINIC VISIT TO SOFIA
TAGS: PFOR, YO, BU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005